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From Iowa to the Sea: the Campaigns and Experiences of Two Iowa Boys Marching With Grant, Thomas, and Sherman

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Book Notices

Ojibway Chiefs: Portraits of Anishinaabe Leadership, by Mark Diedrich. Rochester, MN: Coyote Books, 1999. 189 pp. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. \$29.95 paper.

REVIEWED BY PATRICK J. JUNG, MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY

Mark Diedrich's book provides biographical sketches of 31 Ojibway chiefs who lived between the mid-eighteenth century and the early twentieth century. All of them came from bands that constitute the southwestern Ojibway, who live in the region from Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, in the east to Red Lake, Minnesota, in the west. Each biographical sketch is presented as a chapter, although several chapters discuss two or more chiefs who lived contemporaneously. Diedrich provides information on the significant aspects of each chief's career, particularly their relationships with various colonial powers, such as the French, British, and Americans. He provides noteworthy examinations of the treaties that nineteenth-century Ojibway chiefs negotiated with Indian agents and other federal officials.

Diedrich's book is an extremely valuable reference source for students of Great Lakes Indian history, particularly those interested in the Ojibway Indians of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Diedrich writes in a lucid style that will appeal to both scholars and general readers. His introductory section on the nature of Ojibway chieftainship and government is particularly well suited to nonacademic audiences. All of the sketches are based on exhaustive research into primary sources and are well grounded in the secondary literature. The book is graced with the author's excellent sketches of most of the Ojibway chiefs.

From Iowa to the Sea: The Campaigns and Experiences of Two Iowa Boys Marching with Grant, Thomas, and Sherman, by Timothy F. Preece. Daniel, CA: Essex-Overland, 1999. ix, 160. Illustrations, maps, bibliography, appendix.

REVIEWED BY JOHN LIEPA, DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Consider Iowa's disproportionate influence on the Civil War. Consider the numerous diaries and personal accounts that have survived and added to our firsthand knowledge of that momentous event. Timothy

Preece's personal odyssey tracing two of his family's Iowa ancestors and their experiences through four years of some of the fiercest engagements of the war is a different and engaging approach. As Preece reads from their personal diaries, he travels to and walks readers through each battle in which his great-grandfather, Douglas Preece, and his great-grandmother's brother, Daniel Ryan, fought.

What makes this historical tour particularly interesting is that one or the other of Preece's ancestors participated in virtually every significant battle of the Civil War in the western theater, including Sherman's March to the Sea, as well as being imprisoned at Andersonville, Georgia. Preece's account is a very twenty-first-century look at the Civil War, because in a "virtual reality" way, he has the reader visiting exactly where the units camped, fought, and died. The strength of his narrative is its broad appeal: it will inform the knowledgeable professional Civil War historian, while at the same time explaining and personalizing the roles played by ordinary Iowans in that conflict.

From Iowa to the Sea is not a scholarly work. The author makes no pretense to evaluate his ancestors' overall contribution to either each battle or the war in general. This is not, nor does it pretend to be, a general history of the war. It is a personal memoir. It is Tim Preece's *Roots*. Although we learn little of Iowa from 1861 to 1865, we learn much of what Iowans were made of at that time.

Fort Robinson and the American West, 1874-1899, by Thomas R. Buecker. Lincoln: Nebraska State Historical Society, 1999. xxvii, 265 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, appendixes, bibliography, index. \$40.00 cloth.

REVIEWED BY J. THOMAS MURPHY, TEMPLE COLLEGE

To quell raids by troublesome Lakotas unhappy with reservation life, the U.S. Army established Camp Robinson near the Red Cloud Agency in northwest Nebraska in 1874. From that base, soldiers assumed responsibility for policing the agency and protecting the region. Although the outpost played a nominal role in the Sioux War of 1876, it was there that Crazy Horse, the Oglala leader, was imprisoned and killed. In 1878, because of its strategic location near the Lakota reservations, the camp became a permanent army installation. That same year, Fort Robinson served as a focal point in attempts to capture the Cheyenne bands of Dull Knife and Little Wolf and return them to Indian Territory. The fort continued to expand during the next two decades, and its troops, including "buffalo soldiers" of the Ninth Cavalry, patrolled the country and maintained order.

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